

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 450
By Naifeh

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Coach Jeff McFerran and the 1997 Covington High School football team, Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Division1, Class AAA state playoffs quarterfinalist.

WHEREAS, the Tennessee General Assembly is proud to specially recognize our stellar athletic teams who work hard, play well and who, by means of their accomplishments, serve as examples for other teams to emulate; and

WHEREAS, the memorable 1997 Covington High School football team was one such exceptional gridiron power; and

WHEREAS, during the regular season, Covington compiled an excellent 9-1 record, with impressive victories over Ripley 55-8, Brighton 58-13, Craigmont 37-6, Crockett County 16-14, Obion County 48-6, Haywood County 22-8, Dyer County 54-0, Briarcrest 26-0, and Jackson South Side 28-7; and

WHEREAS, in the fabled Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Division 1, Class 3-A state playoffs, the Chargers charged to victory and defeated the Sheffield High School Knights 21-14 in a crucial first round battle; and

WHEREAS, in second-round state playoff action, Covington stopped the oncoming Ridgeway Roadrunners 49-14; and

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WHEREAS, this great team finished their memorable season with an outstanding 11-2 record, with both their losses coming at the hands of eventual state championship finalists. Their winning percentage was .846; and

WHEREAS, the Chargers set a school record for games played in a season and they tied the school record for most victories in a season; and

WHEREAS, the team was under the able tutelage of highly regarded

Head Coach Jeff McFerran; and

WHEREAS, Coach McFerran was very fortunate to have as his capable Assistant Coaches, Alan Pavatte, Ned Lewis, Jake Linville, Todd Rowland, and Doug Miller; and

WHEREAS, each player worked diligently and made a vital contribution to the success of the team. The roster included: seniors, Hunter Bennett, Joey Glass, J. R. Lock, Arron Taylor, Paul Rasmussen, Tyrone Smith, Keno Anderson, Marko Clemons, Nick Howard, Cameron Beach, Justin Warf, Robert Jacome, Otis Howard, Jason Ashford; juniors, Greg Williams, Trey Barber, Taylor Nix, Tim McDaniel, Jason Watkins, B. J. Smith, Shelvie Rose, Rico Olden, G. R. Baddour, Preston Turner, Malcom Jones, John Springer, Chris Phillips, William Wooten, Eric Winfrey, Luke McMahan, and David Pinner; sophomores, Hunter Edwards, Dustin Franklin, Jimmy Hicks, Derek Delancey, Justin Clark, Dabney Maxwell and Brandon Morton; and freshmen, Daron White, Jonathan Ashford and Jonathan Poe; and

WHEREAS, Michael Cross and Chris Sage were the hard-working managers; and

WHEREAS, Principal Henry Glass, Jr. has been very supportive of the team; the school's Assistant Principals are Tom Barton, Tony Jones, and Melissa Matlock; and

WHEREAS, their fine Athletic Directors are Tom Barton and Tony Jones; and

WHEREAS, the Purple and Gold effort was significantly aided by the enthusiastic contributions made by the cheerleading squad under the dynamic leadership of sponsor Marilyn Driggers. The members of the squad were: seniors, Jenny Adams, Camille Beach, Alicia Cook, Melissa Edwards, Sarah King, Kristin Myres, and Brandi Nunez; juniors, Jenny Ashford, Beth

Jones, Rebecca Rose, Anna Shoaf, and Megan Tatlock; and sophomores, Julie Channell, and Jennifer Smith; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we pause in our deliberations to honor and congratulate Coach McFerran and the outstanding 1997 Covington High School football team on a great season; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we honor and congratulate Coach Jeff McFerran and the 1997 Covington High School football team on their many accomplishments and wish them much continued success in their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That on behalf of their many fans, we express our deep appreciation to Coach McFerran and the team.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That appropriate copies of this resolution be prepared for presentation to the school and each person named above, with this final clause omitted from such copies.